GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1654
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2008
SOCIAL VIOLENCE
Dhanaraju Dr. K.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether social violence is posing a major threat to the general public in the country; and

(b) if so, the preventive steps taken by the Government to protect the Government`s property and loss of human life?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a): Government is aware that there have been incidents of violence arising from social tensions and conflicts in various parts of the country, from time to time, which is a matter of concern.

(b): Law and order is a State subject under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, and it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to deal with such incidents as per the law, including action to prevent damage to life and property, and take effective action against those indulging in violence. However, the Central Government also closely and regularly monitors the law and order situation in the country. As a part of this process, the Central Government maintains close contact with State Governments whenever any such incidents may occur, besides sharing information with them and sending advisories from time to time with the aim of facilitating timely preventive action, as also emphasizing the need for firm enforcement action against elements indulging in violence. In addition, the Central Government, on the request of the State Governments also provides assistance in the form of deployment of Central security forces to aid the States to effectively deal with various situations.

All this is in addition to the long term measures being taken by the Central Government to strengthen and upgrade the Police in the States under the scheme for modernization of State Police Forces and liberal sanctions for raising of India Reserve Battalions, so that the State Governments are adequately equipped, in terms of force availability, training and equipment, to handle situation of violence, and act effectively to prevent damage and loss of life and property.